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## Contributed Articles.

*On Important Apian Subjects.*

### Sweet Clover for Honey and Forage.

BY WM. STOLLEY.

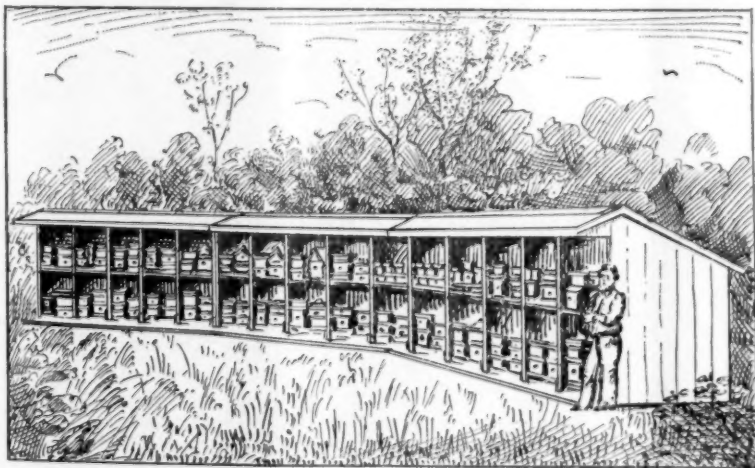
Complying with Dr. Miller's request on page 759, respecting sweet clover (mellilot), I will say this:

1st. I think that about 7/10 of my 175 pounds of surplus per colony came from sweet clover, because my bees worked but a few days on alfalfa bloom, when it was cut for hay. They worked much more on sweet clover than they did on alfalfa, while they worked on alfalfa. I estimate that of the first 2,000 pounds of (nearly white) honey gathered, 9/10 came from sweet clover, and but 1/10 from alfalfa. About 1,000 pounds of fall honey, I believe, consists of 2/3 mellilot, 3/10 buckwheat, and 1/5 wild bloom. There is plenty of golden-rod in my locality, but bees do not work on it, while four or five miles south of me (on the Platte River islands) bees work well on the same plant every fall.

2nd. I am inclined to believe that sweet clover, if allowed to grow without being cut (the second year of its growth, of course) will yield more honey than if cut; but I do not think that this is under certain conditions the proper thing to do for one who is first and foremost a farmer, and where honey-production comes in as a secondary consideration.

3rd. Again, if a farmer is also a stock-raiser, besides being a bee-keeper, he may consider the fodder to be obtained

tions, I will further say that I think it most profitable to cut a proper portion of the sweet clover within two miles of my little apiary, principally on the public roads, as far as a mower will do it (there is always quite a lot of it that grows too near fences and hedges that cannot be cut), just about the time when it will soon begin to bloom, so as to cause numerous and profuse sprouting anew. A proper part (about 2/3) of the growing of mellilot I aim to allow to grow unmolested. The bees will boom on it soon (early in July), and by the time the



*Apiary of Mr. Wm. Stolley, Grand Island, Nebr.*



*Sweet Clover.*

from a timely cutting of sweet clover worth much more than the number of pounds of honey he is likely to get, if he permits it to become stocky; but yielding all the honey there is to be obtained, if allowed to mature without cutting it once.

4th. Always keeping in view my locality, and taking my surroundings as a basis when answering the Doctor's ques-

most copious honey-flow from this first maturing crop is about to pass away, the part that was cut in June is taking its place. In doing this, and having but a certain number of colonies to work on a certain number of acres of mellilot *at all times in bloom*, the bees will have excellent pasturage from the first of July until frost kills all vegetation.

5th. My impression that sweet clover, if not cut, yields more nectar than when it is cut, is not such that I am convinced of it, but it is an open question with me yet. To this conclusion I have come by watching the working of the bees on the bloom of sweet clover; and it appeared to me that they work with more vim on the first bloom. At all events, sweet clover, on account of its deep, penetrating roots, is a much more reliable honey-yielder than white clover, not being subjected to the effects of ordinary drouths.

6th. Treating mellilot exclusively as a forage plant, I will say that I have sown 15 pounds of seed to the acre, and secured a good stand. I have sown early in the fall, so as to insure good rooting of the young plants before frost; and I have sown also late in winter, so as to allow the seed to take advantage of the early spring moisture, with the same satisfactory results. Even the stubble of small grain, or a corn-field, is good enough for sweet clover without further cultivation, except a slight harrowing, and it will take care of itself in this part of the world. I have frequently scattered the seed indiscriminately on vacant places, along public roads, where noxious and worthless weeds were growing, and three years later the sweet clover had run out the weeds entirely. But let me state right here, that sweet clover growing on and alongside of public highways should be cut about June 20, so as to dwarf the growth of the plants. If this is neglected, sweet clover is likely to grow so rank and high as to make it a nuisance in winter, by causing the drifting snow to bank up, thus making the public roads impassable. Many rank weeds, however, generally growing now on public roads, are just as objectionable in this respect as sweet clover. By mowing it the middle or 20th of June (not later, if the aim is to make it profitable for the apiarist as a honey-producer), sweet clover will furnish bee-pasturage until frost kills all growing vegetation, and is not objectionable in any way to anybody if growing on the public highways; on the contrary, it is attractive, its perfume is delicious, and it keeps the roads in good condition. In a mild and late autumn I have seen mellilot thus treated blooming in December, and bees at work on it here in Nebraska.

7th. Sweet clover is much more succulent, and requires considerably more curing than alfalfa. During the first year it should be cut the latter part of June, when it is from 18 to 24 inches high; again the middle or latter part of August, and then it will make a fine subsequent growth, so as to make excellent pasture for stock clear into winter, and not be injured.

The second year it should be cut but once, in June, or not at all, as circumstances may make it advisable. This is my experience here with sweet clover. What it may do, or not do, in other parts of our great country, I will not pretend to say.

Each cutting will give from two to three tons of hay per acre, according to productiveness of soil. If it is not desirable to let it go to seed the second year of its growth, mellilot should be plowed up about the beginning of July; a crop of buckwheat may then be grown on the same land to maturity, and winter grain may be sown following the harvesting of the buckwheat the same year.

If mellilot is suffered to grow undisturbed the second year to maturity, it makes a tremendous growth on good land, and this is what scares some farmers. They do not know what to do with it, when it stands in a solid mass 5 to 7 feet high, brush-like, and nearly as hard to cut as wood. It takes a good three-horse team and a No. 1 sulky-plow to put the whole mass of vegetable matter underground and out of sight. But the land itself will be enriched by it. Poor land will gain rapidly in fertility by being worked in this way. The strong and deep penetrating roots of mellilot open up the subsoil of the land, by making innumerable channels which permit the mineral salts and moisture deposits below to rise to the surface when needed for plant food, after the roots have decayed, which takes place in a very short time.

Knowing the nature of this plant, any sensible person will be able to cope with it, and make this excellent plant a source of profit; but "a natural fool" is apt to have a job on hand that will make him "sweat," and he ought to, for that is what he was created for.

As I stated in my article on page 728, mellilot requires considerably more curing than alfalfa, and after being sufficiently cured it should be stacked early in the forenoon or towards evening, so as to prevent the leaves from dropping off. Also a liberal sprinkle of salt should be thrown on every layer of it. This will help greatly to prevent heating in the stack, and will permit its being secured and stacked much sooner than if not so treated.

It is probably in order that I also state that land on which mellilot once matured and ripened its seed, is for a number of

years stocked with it; for how many years I am unable to say. Not knowing the nature of this plant, I sowed its seeds all around about my premises—lawn, apiary, and everywhere else, and some of my neighbors predicted later on that the blamed stuff would run me off of my farm, since it was getting ahead of everything growing. "Yes," one of them said, "this million clover (he could not remember 'mellilot') is already on its march to town, and grows in the court-house yard, and will eventually drive away the court house 'rats' (county officers)."

Well, years have passed since this storm of indignation against sweet clover and myself was raging, but my apiary, lawn, and the park is in as fine a condition as it ever was, and our "court-house rats" are infesting the old court-house yet.

If mellilot is to be eradicated, it should be allowed to bloom, but before ripening any seed, it should be cut near the ground, and that will kill the plant in all its parts, or "root and branch," as the saying goes.

I hope that the foregoing will about satisfy Dr. Miller, and probably some others who, after reading my former article on sweet clover, addressed me by letter and postal card, making inquiries about it. I have answered some of them by letter, *i. e.*, those who enclosed a postage stamp or stamped envelope, but those who neglected doing this will please excuse me when I refer them to the above for information, as an answer to their letters of inquiry.

All that I have to add is, that I have no mellilot or sweet clover seed for sale. Those who have, should make it known by advertising in the American Bee Journal.

Grand Island, Nebr.

[Thank you, Mr. Stolley. I think Dr. Miller will now be satisfied. Surely, you have told us a good deal about sweet clover—that queen of honey-plants. It might be well if those who read the Bee Journal would get their local newspapers to copy Mr. Stolley's interesting and instructive article. By all means urge the publishers of your farm papers to publish it. It is just the kind of information that farmers, as well as bee-keepers, need to have.—EDITOR.]



## Wintering—Size of Bees.

BY J. H. ANDRE.

Some twelve years ago, when examining an apiary in the spring, that belonged partly to myself, I found the bees in some chaff hives all dead, with plenty of honey in the hives in good condition. Bees in the old-style box-hives close by had wintered first-class. After much study over the matter, I came to the conclusion that an hour of sunshine after a week or ten days of severe cold weather would warm a single-walled hive sufficient to arouse the bees and enable them to partake of food, which would put them in condition for another cold spell. The severe cold spell penetrated the double-walled hive, and the warmth that was sufficient for the single-wall had no effect on the double-walled hive. This would produce the result of *sure starvation*.

In view of this, I wish to ask Mr. Morton, if his house-apiary (mentioned on page 847) is not more objectionable than a chaff hive. It seems to me the temperature will fall far below the safe wintering point, and warmth will be lacking to enable the bees to take food. Artificial heat quickly applied to the room when it was warm enough for a flight outside might work well, but it is doubtful if it could be regulated to work at other times, on account of the bees crawling out at the entrance and perishing.

Dr. Miller, (on page 726) speaks of "any two bees," taken from his hives. Beg pardon, but Dr. M. will find a great difference between a mass of bees on a small piece of comb and "two bees." I do not wish to make too rash an assertion, for it might bother me a trifle to tell which colony bees belonged to in an apiary of 100 colonies or more, but when I kept 20 colonies (I never was as big a bee-keeper as Dr. M.) it was not at all difficult for me to tell what colony a bee belonged to, if the queen was old enough for me to get a knowledge of her progeny.

In regard to two colonies working on a small piece of comb (now please bear in mind I do not mean in the apiary, but *half a mile or more away*)—if Dr. Miller had experienced the vexation of losing many a tree by tame bees working in and running out the wild ones, he would have a different opinion. My first thought on reading his exceptions was to have the matter referred to the Query-Box, but a part of it comes



under the knowledge of bee-hunting instead of bee-keeping, and possibly some would not understand the former. Probably this is not the last that will be heard of the matter, as no doubt the experts will be giving particular attention to size, shape, markings, etc., if the weather will permit. Dr. Miller will be given all the praise of having furnished food for thought, for the claim is not mine. Lockwood, N. Y.



### Amalgamation of the "North American" and the "Union."

BY GEO. W. BRODBECK.

I have restrained my promptings on this subject, awaiting the report of the committee so as to be more capable of intelligently digesting the project presented. The committee selected by the North American Bee-Keepers' Association was appointed Sept. 6, and the report of said committee came to hand Dec. 4, with the suggestion—"If the consolidation is effected it would be desirable for it to go into effect Jan. 1, 1896." The subject of consolidation has been in the hands of the Committee now for almost three months, and in the meantime the bee-periodicals have seemingly combined to strain every nerve in support of this project of amalgamation, and thus, taking all this into consideration, it would be but right and just to extend the time for an intelligent discussion of this subject by the members of the National Bee-Keepers' Union, until March 1, 1896. The members of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association in a body, and as individuals, have been given time for full and free discussion, and as a member of the Union I demand a just and equitable indulgence.

I have no thought or intention to cast any reflection on the Committee, in their endeavor to thus force the members of the Union to a hasty conclusion. I have the highest esteem for each and every member on this Committee, and three of the number I know in person, and I say, without fear of contradiction, that a better selection could not have been made; but we are all human, consequently all of us are likely to err, so in their zeal to hasten this consummation, in all probability they have not taken the scattered membership of the Union into consideration as fully as they might have done, so we trust in the ready assent of a longer delay, when all will result in "seeing fair play." [The Committee have already revised their Report to read thus: "If the consolidation is effected, it would be desirable for it to go into effect as soon as possible."—EDITOR.]

The subject of amalgamation is of far greater import to the members of the Bee-Keepers' Union than to the members of the North American. The Union has a record that no other like organization can point to with such just pride, and its membership to-day stands with an unbroken front from Maine to California; but let us remember that we have not reached our present stage in a day, month or year, but that it has taken ten long years, and those years to some have been years of unceasing toil and care, and the brunt of all this fell upon that indefatigable worker and staunch friend of American bee-keepers—Thomas G. Newman; and to him, more than to any one else, is due the success of the National Bee-Keepers' Union.

On the other hand, we have the North American Bee-Keepers' Association, and as a social organization it also can take just pride in its record of members, comprising some of the brightest lights of modern bee-keeping, and who have written their names upon the hearts of every intelligent bee-keeper on this continent, and thoughts of whom will always be thoughts of pleasure. I indeed feel sad to think of the possibility of its speedy dissolution, but as it comes to us as an admitted failure, is it advisable for us to take unto ourselves such a "helpmate," and in doing so surrender our birthright and enter into a new field of speculation and adventure? An old adage just here presents itself, and I advise every member of the Union to "be sure you're right then go ahead;" but unless you are, "let well enough alone."

The Committee claim two organizations to accomplish the work is not necessary—and right here we agree; but they forget to state that the work of the two organizations are entirely different, and thus requiring two separate and distinct associations. The Union is purely a business organization, and its sole object is protection, and no one can say that it has not fulfilled its mission. On the other hand, the North American is a social organization, and to tack on social features to a business organization will result in failure to both, for past experience has proved that you cannot combine business with pleasure.

I firmly believe in the need of two separate organizations, and I am willing to pledge my earnest support to both; and

while I never had the pleasure of attending but one session of the North American, yet if provision had been made by change of Constitution and By-Laws, I would have willingly sent in my yearly dues, the same as I have in years past in connection with the Union.

If the Union enlarges its field by extending a protecting arm over Canada, our present court decisions in this country would be of no avail there; and like decisions there would be of no use here. Then if we unite on a protective basis, protection must be equal and just to all, and if our laws come in conflict with our organization in either country, to place us on an equality, it will be necessary for us to use our influence to do away with these laws; and if we are so fortunate as to induce our Government to aid us by an appropriation, it would be right and just to utilize the funds in the interest of our Canadian brethren as well as on this side; then, to be brotherly, we would expect our neighbors to exert like influence with their Government, so I but naturally ask the question, Is this all feasible?

The Constitution presented on page 757, does not designate any place of business, consequently it is optional with the Board of Directors whether it is in Canada or the United States. The present place of business of the Union is Chicago, and almost any one knows where that is; but the proposed new place is a myth.

I now come to one part that is extremely exhilarating, and that is—all disposal of funds is within the hands of the Directors (officers), and can be used for any purpose in connection with bee-culture; so if this project is a success, I want the members to elect Prof. Cook, "Rambler," or myself, one of the Directors, to secure funds in the establishment of our prospective California Honey Exchange; for you see this is in connection with bee-keeping, and would be far more profitable than an investment in prize essays, and in payment of possible junketing expeditions, all of which is possible, for the duties of the Directors only require their own indorsement; and then, if the funds run low, all that is required to replenish the exchequer is to assess each member for the amount necessary (note this); and, of course, to retain membership in this organization compliance to this would be necessary.

Now, Mr. Editor, to close, I desire to say that I have written this with all candor, and malice towards none; and, if, after careful consideration, the members of the Union positively decide on accepting the propositions presented by the Committee, I am with the majority; but for the present I am for the perpetuation of the National Bee-Keepers' Union.

Los Angeles, Calif., Dec. 4.



### Sweet Clover—T Supers and Pattern Slats.

BY PETER J. SCHARTZ.

For a continuous honey-flow I would prefer sweet clover to all other honey-plants. The honey cannot be excelled by any other, no matter from what source it is taken.

Sweet clover comes in bloom about the first part of June here, and blooms till killed by frost. It grows on any soil, among stone-piles, along roadsides and other waste places. If bee-keepers would sow it, their bees would not have to be fed. Just think of taking 100 to 150 pounds of sweet clover honey per colony in dry seasons, and if not too wet securing still more! It is self-seeding, and only needs sowing once, when it is good for all time. For feed it is not very good unless cut very early, and then it would not be of any benefit to the bee-keeper.

If all bee-keepers would contract for a piece of land, say four or five acres, and sow it with sweet clover close to the apiary, it would be a good investment.

To secure fall honey from it, cut half of it down about the middle of August, and one week later cut the rest of it down, and that will give you pasture till killed by frost. By cutting it down, the second crop will bloom for the balance of the season.

#### T SUPERS AND PATTERN SLATS.

I want to say something in regard to the T super. I think that Dr. Miller is right in using it, for several reasons which I will give from experience.

I have used the dove-tailed hive one season, with the section slats and flat hive-cover. There is a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch bee-space above the brood-frames, and the slats are flush with the bottom of the super. I put the super on the hive with the sections and slats fastened up tight. Two weeks after, I took off the cover and cloth to see how the bees were getting along. I found the slats and sections had slipped down on the brood-frames, and all glued fast by the bees, with wax and propolis.

But didn't I make a mess of it when I took off the sections and super! It looked as if you knocked a man's hat over his eyes and ears—only a little sweeter. I decided I would not use those frames again that way.

Then I tried them again by making the brood-frames flush with the top of the hive, and nailing a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch strip on the inside, flush with the bottom of the super, letting the slats rest on them, and still giving a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch bee-space; but I have discarded that also, for the reason that the bees have it all glued together, which makes it difficult to remove the sections and slats.

But I now use the T super because it is easier to put in and remove the sections, and not so many traps. The way I make the T super is this:

I drive in the staples for the T tins to rest on, except the outside ones, which I nail fast to the two end-pieces by leaving half of the T tins lap over on the bottom of the super. On the one side I drive three 6-penny wire nails; on the other side I take two one-inch screws for each end, and fasten it together, put in the sections, put three T tins between the sections on top, and they will not be any more diamond shape than in the slats. When full, I take it off the hive, take out the four screws and T tins from the top, spread the ends a little, when, presto! there you are; your sections are all out in a jiffy.

Some other time I will also give the reasons why I discarded the flat hive-cover, and how I make my own.

Lemont, Ill.



## Marketing the Honey Crop.

BY W. D. FRENCH.

Bee-keepers of California are waking up to their sense of duty, in the matter of marketing their honey. Nearly every person is becoming convinced that something must be done, in order that their cherished pursuit may not fall beneath the feet of those who have sought its eternal ruin.

The marketing of honey, to me, seems easily adjusted. The point which we desire to make, is, that our product be delivered direct to the retailer by the operation of a direct transaction. It is a conceded fact, that the production and distribution of our honey has never succeeded in its equilibrium. To illustrate: There are several carloads of honey shipped from Salt Lake City to Chicago, when at the same time it should have gone to Helena, Montana. Many carloads that are shipped from various other points to Chicago, should have gone to points in Idaho; train loads from California to Chicago, that should have gone to the Dakotas, or some other place; and so on.

Therefore, it will readily be seen that many of our good points for marketing our product have been utterly ignored, while some other place has been over stocked.

The over-stocking of one principal point, like Chicago, or New York, has its demoralizing effect upon all other markets. Therefore it will be plainly seen that to have an organized system of distribution, prompted by a General Manager, who should be located in Chicago, would secure for the producers a quick and better price for their product. It cannot be doubted that it will also render the same profit to our Eastern brothers, as to those who are located in California.

As I have before urged, I feel confident that it would be best to enlarge upon the premises of the Bee-Keeper's Union, and through its instrumentality adjust all of this disturbance, which is so vital to our interests as bee-keepers, throughout the United States, and restore our product to its equilibrium, as does the blood from the heart of a human being.

I am now informed that the price of honey in San Diego has declined, and they are paying  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound in 60 pound cans, cased. The reason of the recent decline, as stated, was because a certain apiarist had started for town with his load.

An ever watchful eye  
Is kept by those who buy;  
So when a "soup" is sighted,  
They all are much delighted—  
Because they're "in the swim."

Foster, Calif.



## Non-Swarming Bees vs. Non-Sitting Hens.

BY BERT LOWNES.

Mr. Norton (see page 663) believes that since man has eradicated the sitting instinct in several of the different breeds of fowls, and has produced practically seedless fruits of a few varieties, that the swarming habit in bees may in time be bred out, or at least lessened to a very great degree.

I will admit that we have some seedless fruits, and a few so-called non-sitting breeds of fowls—non-sitting in fact, although, as I shall explain, the desire to sit has not been bred out.

In regard to fruits, and in fact all plants, I will say that they are more under man's control than bees or other animals. They have no will to be subdued, hence, can be more easily managed.

Place a plant in a can of earth, and as long as the conditions are favorable enough to sustain life, even though other soil, climate, surroundings, etc., would better meet its requirements, it will remain there.

We may put a swarm of bees into a hive, but unless it meets with the approval of the bees, we are not so sure of their remaining. It is not instinct or nature that makes this difference, but *brain* which a bee has and plants have not. Man may remove the necessity of seeding in certain fruits, and the fruits may in time become seedless, but it does not follow (necessarily) that by removing the necessity of swarming in bees, they will have no desire to swarm, or, I may say, hens have no desire to sit, because artificial incubation removes the necessity of their doing so.

As I said before, plants have no will—they do not care whether their species are duplicated or not, hence by removing the necessity one may, or may not, remove the seeding of certain varieties of fruits, etc.

With bees and animals it is different. Bees do not swarm, or hens sit, for the good of their posterity, at least they do not have the well-fare of their future generations at heart, but they reproduce their kind for the love of it. Hence, a person may remove the necessity of swarming in bees, and sitting in hens, and still not succeed in breeding out the desire of the one to swarm or the other to sit.

Man does not get to himself a family for (the) fear that the earth would become depopulated if he remained single.

I have heard from good authority that fruits of different species may be grafted together with good results; then why cannot we make a cross of the honey-bee on the bumble-bee? It is because man cannot control animal life to the extent that he can plant life.

Then comes the non-sitting hens. I will admit that the Leghorns, Houdans, Hamburgs, and a few other breeds are non-sitting breeds, and have become so by domestication; but surely Mr. Norton does not mean to say that artificial incubation has, by removing the responsibility from the hens, made them so! If it has, why hasn't it made all breeds non-sitting? For that to be true, it would be necessary for the hen to be able to exercise reason; then we might expect a hen to exclaim (in her own language, of course), on seeing her owner "set" the incubator: "Well, sisters, there's John setting the incubator; we needn't bother about rearing a brood this season, for there will be plenty without."

Further more, if Mr. Norton should go to the jungle and get, we will say, two dozen Leghorns, and on returning should present me (?) with half of them, and under our care they should become domesticated, and Mr. N. should use an incubator, thereby removing the necessity of his hens to sit, and I should leave the responsibility of reproduction on my hens, in order to substantiate Mr. Norton's statement his hens should become non-sitting, while mine should remain as they were in the jungle. The fact is, though, that both lots of chickens would become non-sitting.

Artificial incubation has not removed the desire of any hen to sit, or made any hen a non-sitter. All the non-sitting breeds were in existence (not all, either, but enough to make the logic of this statement good) before artificial incubation came into general use.

Look at all the different breeds of non-sitting fowls, and see if they do not all have a wild, timid nature. Man can hardly approach them—a 12-foot fence cannot imprison them. This, and this only, has made them non-sitting breeds.

Domesticate a Leghorn, and in due time she will become broody, but as soon as the chicken-house door is opened, she is off the nest; and after this is repeated a few times she gives up the notion for the time being.

Ask any poultry fancier who rears non-sitting breeds, and see if he does not tell you that quite often one of his Leghorns or Hamburgs, as the case may be, becomes broody, but is scared out of the notion. When Leghorns are kept on a farm where they have an unlimited range, it is not infrequently that a hen will "steal her nest," and if left unmolested, will, in due time, appear with a brood of chicks, and I believe that if a flock of Leghorns, or any other non-sitting breed, were left to themselves, and not molested, the entire flock would sooner or later take to "rearing their own chickens."

These are absolute facts, and go to prove that the desire



to sit has not been bred out of the non-sitting breeds. You may scare a hen out of the notion (not breed out the desire) of sitting, but I do not think the bees will be frightened out of the "swarming habit."

I believe with Mr. Norton, that to breed any trait or tendency into a race there must be more or less of it there to begin with. As to breeding a non-swarming tendency into the bees, I think there is less of it in the bees than would be necessary to have in order to make it possible.

Mr. Norton, no doubt, believes that a selection of the queens whose bees are not so inclined to swarm, would, in the course of time, produce a non-swarming bee. And why shouldn't that be the case? Isn't that logical? For an example, take a Plymouth Rock hen. A hen of this breed will do well on less feed than either the non-sitting or the Asiatic breeds. Now, by careful selection couldn't a person produce a strain of chickens that would get fat on nothing?

Some people have large ears and some have very small ones; would it be possible to breed our ears off entirely? We can drive Nature so far, but no farther.

Charter Oak, Iowa.



### What Dr. Miller Thinks.

**BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.**—Hon. George E. Hilton is surely an enthusiast in the matter of bee-conventions, as shown on page 774. If he should be taken at his word, and go to help organize an association in every township within one or two hundred miles, he would have to hire an assistant, for there wouldn't be enough days in the year for him to do the work alone. He is probably safe enough, however, in making the offer. Many who keep bees have never attended a convention of bee-keepers, and they don't know how much they are missing.

**KEEPING-QUALITIES OF HONEY.**—What Mr. Abbott says on page 776 sets one to thinking. Why is it that in one case honey keeps all right 300 years, and again it spoils in less than that number of days? As he suggests, much may be in the treatment. Isn't there something also in the honey itself, independent of the treatment? More or less pollen is found floating in honey. If there is much pollen present, a rumpus might be expected on slight provocation. Might there not be such a thing as honey practically free from pollen? and would not such honey resist fermentation even under trying circumstances? I'm with the writer, in preferring honey that has never shown any inclination to ferment. And yet I've had honey that had become fairly entitled to the designation "soured," that became so changed as to become really good honey. It was simply allowed to stand on the reservoir of a cook-stove for a long time, perhaps two or three weeks. As a rule, when honey is heated it is pretty nearly ruined for table use. The heating should be very gentle and long-continued.

**APIARIAN NOMENCLATURE.**—Referring to the editorial on page 780, "bar" is a good deal shorter than "perforated metal" or "queen-excluder." The latter is the common name, and is open to the objection that it does not always express the truth, for perforated metal is often used as an includer. "Bar" would be appropriate in either case, for the perforated metal *bars* the passage of the queen. But an objection to "bar" is that it is also used so much in naming top-bars, end-bars, bar-hives, etc. "Hive-floor" isn't much shorter than bottom-board, but why say hive-floor any more than church-floor or house-floor? "Floor" is enough. "Cellar" is a word that I think we have a right to use as a verb. Instead of, "I put my bees in the cellar," say, "I cellar my bees."

**THE STRAWBERRY-GROWERS VERSUS ABBOTT AND JOLLEY.**—At the December meeting of the Northern Illinois Horticultural Society, the question was asked, "Suppose I plant a bed of Crescents with no staminate varieties within 40 rods, how much of a crop will I secure in a series of years?" All were asked to arise to their feet who believed a half a crop could be obtained, but not a man arose. The same result was obtained when a quarter of a crop was named. An eighth of a crop was named, but not a man believed that could be obtained. Then all were asked to arise who believed less than an eighth of a crop would be got. Promptly they arose as one man. Secretary Hartwell, himself a specialist in strawberry culture, remarked that to say that a crop of berries could be obtained from a bed of Crescents, was one of those half-truths that were mischievous in their tendency, and were sometimes used by those who had a smattering of theoretical without practical

knowledge. Especially the Crescent among those classed as pistillates might sometimes produce quite a quantity of fruit without other varieties near, there being sufficient stamens present for that result, but that would warrant no intelligent, practical fruit-grower in saying he could raise crops of Crescent strawberries without the aid of staminate varieties.

**THOSE QUESTIONS.**—In answer to question No. 1, on page 780, I think I'd like to have more of the advertising department. Not that I like to read advertisements so much better than other things, although I generally keep track of what is being advertised. But the more paying advertisements, the better the publishers can afford to make improvements, and if advertisements crowd too hard on the reading pages, more pages could be added.

**M. H. MARTIN'S YIELD.**—What's the matter with those figures on page 783? I don't call 1,400 pounds a "good yield" for 70 colonies. Don't you mean 14,000?—[Yes; that's a case where a cipher means something. 14,000 is correct.—EDITOR.]



### Strawberry Pollination Once More.

BY REV. M. MAHIN.

A good deal has been said in the American Bee Journal of late about strawberries, and the question is left in what seems to me to be an unsatisfactory and misleading condition. It has been asserted—and the assertion uncontradicted—that a crop of berries can be raised from plants producing no stamens without there being any plants in the vicinity that produce pollen. Now I feel very sure that this is a mistake. It is possible that some of the pistillate varieties have, here and there, inconspicuous stamens that yield enough pollen to produce a crop of berries, but it is not true of all of them.

A man, living across the street from my home, told me last summer his experience with strawberries. He said he sent away and got plants of one of the highly-recommended varieties; that he cultivated them well; and that they grew luxuriantly and bloomed profusely; but that they did not produce a strawberry. He kept them two or three years, and as he got no fruit he dug up the plants and put something else in their place. He had only the one variety. A friend of mine in the country had a similar experience. His one variety produced no fruit at all. So if any of the readers of the American Bee Journal plant pistillate varieties alone, they will, almost certainly, have their labor for their pains.

Our "Jolley" correspondent says that pistillate varieties produce some runners that have perfect blossoms, and *vice versa*. So, at least, I understand him. Now, I believe that is a mistake. It is contrary to the rule of Nature in the vegetable world, and in order to its acceptance it requires to be established by very positive and abundant proof. As it is one of the easiest things in the world to be mistaken, every step in the process needs to be closely scrutinized. We might have a plant known to be pistillate. It must be planted by itself so far from any other plants that the runners cannot intermingle. Then if staminate plants are produced, the contention of Mr. Jolley is sustained; otherwise not. I am open to conviction in regard to this matter, and to all others; but the evidence must be conclusive, which, as yet, it is not. New Castle, Ind.

[See Dr. Miller's comment on this subject, on this very page.—Editor.]

**Liberal Book Premiums** are offered on page 814, for the work of getting new subscribers to the Bee Journal. It is a fine chance to get a complete apicultural library. Think of it—40 cents' worth of books given to the one sending a new subscriber! Remember, please, that *only* present subscribers to the Bee Journal can take advantage of that offer. The publishers of the Bee Journal believe in making it an object for the old subscribers to push for new readers among their neighbors and friends, hence the generous premium offers to them. It is hoped that all may begin *now* to work. Sample copies of the Bee Journal free.

**Now is the Time** to work for new subscribers. Why not take advantage of the offers made on page 814?

## Notes AND Comments.

CONDUCTED BY

Rev. Emerson T. Abbott, St. Joseph, Mo.

**Ducks and Bees.**—"White clover sod does not make a good pasture for ducklings, and consequently the three get badly mixed up. The bee stings as she goes down the duckling's throat on a clover head, and the career of the bee and duckling both come to a sudden termination."—Biggle Poultry Book.

It seems strange that men of more than ordinary intelligence will continue to write such squibs. I am sure that the yearly average would not be one duck in a thousand, which would be killed in the way suggested above, if the clover patch was full of ducks and bees at the same time. It seems to me like making "much ado about nothing," to write such a paragraph. It can do the duck-raiser no good, and may create a useless and unjust prejudice against the bees. The duck-raiser, I think, need not bother his head about the quantity of ducks he will lose in this way, and surely the apiary will not be depopulated by the bees being consumed by the ducklings!

**The House Beautiful.**—This is the title of a little booklet published by James H. West, Boston, Mass., which is such a perfect gem that I feel I will do the readers of the Bee Journal a lasting benefit by calling attention to it. It costs only 15 cents, and is worth its weight in gold to every home-builder who will read it and heed its suggestions. It can be read through in an hour, but there is meat enough in it to make a book of a thousand pages. Every young married couple should have a copy and read it through once a day until all its wholesome and inspiring suggestions have become as familiar as the furniture of the home.

This is not an advertisement, nor an ordinary review, as I paid the cash for the copy I read, and have to-day mailed it to a friend; for I felt, as soon as I read it, that I wished that everybody I knew had a copy. Send and get one, and see if you do not feel the same way. Mention the Bee Journal.—[Yes, I, too, have read this booklet, and it is superfine.—Ed.]

**Notes from Virgil.**—Some years ago there came into my hands a copy of a translation, with notes, of Virgil's works, made in 1653, by one John Ogilby. His notes on the Fourth Georgic cannot fail to be of interest to bee-keepers, as showing what was known about this industry over 200 years ago. I give the notes as they appear, spelling and all, with some few remarks.

The annotation on the Argument is suggestive. It reads as follows:

"The fourth Book comprehends the choicest rules of the ancients concerning Bees, which suit so well with ours that I have heard an honorable Lady of Great Judgement (the late Countess of Kent) profess that she made an incredible increase of Bees, confining her servants who attended them precisely to observance of this Book."

On the line,

"Next to Aethereal Honey I'll proceed,"

the translator remarks:

"The poet (saith LaCerde) excellent in Natural Philosophy, subverts the common opinion implying that the bees do not make Honey, but only gather it together and compact it, and therefore calls it Aerial and Celestial. To this assents Aristotle. That Bees make not Honey but carry only away the falling Dew, may be argued from hence, that in one or two days a Hive may be found full; Besides, if you take away their Honey in Autumn, they cannot recruit it, notwithstanding there are flowers at that time of year. And Pliny, 'Whether it be the Sweat of Heaven, or Spittle of the Stars, or Moisture of the Air purging itself, I wish it were as pure and natural as it first descends; Whereas now falling from so great height, it contracts much of impurity by the way, yet retains much of the pleasantness of its Celestial nature.'"

This was before the days of glucose. Pliny seems to have had some idea of the adulteration craze, even in his time; but he does not tell us whether he thought it done by men or the gods.

(To be continued.)

## Questions AND Answers.

CONDUCTED BY

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.

[Questions may be mailed to the Bee Journal, or to Dr. Miller direct.]

### Moving Bees—Peculiar Sweet Clover Honey.

1. I can buy cheap, 8 colonies of bees that stand about half a mile from my apiary. If I should move them now (Nov. 28) to my cellar, and leave them there until they can be given a good cleansing flight—say in February or March—will they stay at their new place, or will they fly back to their old stand?

2. September 14 I extracted five large pots of well capped (sweet clover) honey. All of this honey has as nice a flavor and taste as you can wish sweet clover honey to have. But, strange to me, the honey in three of these pots will foam every time it is stirred or poured into another vessel, and after it has been left alone for about 10 to 12 hours, it has settled again, is clear as before, and has lost nothing of its fine flavor or taste. What is the matter with that honey?

SUCKER.

ANSWERS.—1. I think they'd stay all right. But everything is frozen up as I write this, and there is some danger in hauling them a half mile now and putting them immediately in the cellar. Whether put into the cellar or left out, I should want them to have a flight pretty soon after being hauled. If you haul them home now and set them out-doors, and they have a flight within a week or so, and are then put into the cellar, they would be all right; but if there's no flight from now till spring, I'm afraid they'd be all wrong. I don't think there would be much trouble about their going back now, even if they should fly right away after being moved, especially if no colonies at all are left in their old home. It's a different thing now, with everything frozen up, from what it would be with flowers yielding, and their flying far away every day.

2. The only thing I can think of is that pollen in the honey causes fermentation, but usually the honey is not quite so nice after this fermentation. I wish you would tell us all you can about this sweet clover. How do you know the honey is all from sweet clover? How much did you get per colony? When was it mainly gathered? How late in the fall did the bees work on it? Was the sweet clover allowed to grow unmolested, or was it cut down or pastured by stock? If cut, when? Please tell us all about it.

### Honey-Barrels Painted Inside—Two-Story Hives for Wintering.

1. Will a barrel painted on the inside to prevent leaking injure the flavor of extracted honey?

2. Also, what do you think of wintering bees in 2-story 8-frame hives? I have all of my bees (I have only 10 colonies) in 2-story hives, with the upper story full of honey, with the cover sealed down tight, and on the summer stands. Do you think there is too much space to keep warm? Or, as bees work upward in cold weather in the center of the hive, they will be right under the sealed honey of the upper story, which I think would be just the thing.

3. Will the bees be safe in the space between the bottom and top bars of the hives on passing from the lower story to the top story, which I think is a cool place on account of the tendency of a draft of cold air which would prevent them going up?

H. E. L.

East St. Louis, Ill.

ANSWERS.—1. I shouldn't want to risk any kind of paint on the inside of the barrel. If the object of the paint is to prevent leakage, you can do better with paraffin. I think some one told about that lately, but I'll repeat: Have your barrel headed up and thoroughly dry. Hoops driven up tight. Now pour into the bunghole 5 or 10 pounds of paraffin well heated, and drive in the bung. Move lively now and roll the barrel over and turn on each end so that all parts are waxed, then quickly knock out the bung and empty the paraffin. Look out that the bung don't hit you when it comes out, for the heated air makes it come as if shot out of a gun.

2. No, I don't think there's too much room to keep warm. As long as the empty space is at the bottom and not at the side, they can climb up where it is warmer. I think you might have made it a little warmer by adding a third story above



and filling it with planer shavings or some kind of packing. As your covers are sealed down, perhaps you better let them alone now, but there's no harm in your putting some kind of packing on top of the sealed covers, with a rain-proof cover over all. Packing at the sides might be an improvement, but in the latitude of St. Louis it may not be needed.

3. If you gave one of the stories just before winter, and if there was a big space—say an inch or more—between the two stories, there might be trouble. But if the bees had the two stories throughout the summer, or at least before the harvest was over, I think you need not have the least uneasiness. If there was a space of only  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch, that would be readily crossed by the bees; and if the space was greater, the bees would build burr-combs for ladders.

I am very much interested in knowing about those 2-story hives. I wish you would tell us about them. When were the second stories given, or were they on all the season? How strong were the colonies in the spring? How were they in the fall? What was the crop? Can you tell us how they compared with one-story colonies? Were they run for comb or extracted honey?

#### Stopping the Sale of Sugar-Honey.

What method would you take to stop the selling of sugar-honey? There are agents coming here and killing our market. We get in the home market, 25 cents per pound for honey, and the agent sells sugar syrup at 6 pounds for \$1.00. Can't we stop him in some way? E. C. C.

Tarentum, Pa.

ANSWER.—Something depends on the laws you have in the good old Keystone State. If sugar syrup is sold under the name of "honey," and the law provides a penalty for selling an article of food under a wrong name, then you can prosecute under that law. If it is sold under the name of "sugar syrup," then no law can touch the case, and there is really nothing wrong in it. If it is a case of real fraud, the Bee-Keepers' Union might afford some help, providing you are a member thereof. Every bee-keeper ought to be a member of that organization, for the sake of his own safety, and for the benefit of others.

#### Keeping Partly-Filled Brood-Frames in Winter.

I have some partly-filled brood-frames that I wish to give to my bees next spring. If I keep them where they will freeze, will it do any harm? or would I better keep them where it is warm? J. A. E.

St. George, Maine.

ANSWER.—The honey will keep better if the combs are in a warm, dry place. But if they are not to be given to the bees pretty early in the season, there will be an advantage in letting the combs freeze, for that will kill any worms that may be in them. On the whole, I believe I wouldn't go to any very great inconvenience to keep them from freezing.

#### Water Running Out of Hives.

I am wintering part of my bees out of the cellar in a long, low shed, packed on three sides with chaff, with perhaps four inches of chaff on top. They are sweating badly now, so that water runs out of every hive. Last winter I had them in the same place, and lost several colonies from the same cause. The combs got moldy and wet along in February. But the hives show a great deal more of water running out of them this early in the winter than during all of last winter. Last winter I had about eight inches of chaff on top, so I thought perhaps I had too much, and only put on four inches this winter. I put on the hives coverings of very porous material this fall, hoping that would remedy the matter. But it does not, unless I put the coverings on too soon, and the bees had a chance to varnish them over, making them water, or rather vapor, proof. I am afraid I shall lose a good many colonies in the shape they are in now.

The colonies that are in the cellar show no signs of dampness whatever. What is your opinion in the matter? and what would you advise doing? Take the packing off entirely? The covers are raised up  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, so as to give free circulation. Fremont, Ohio, Dec. 6. C. R.

ANSWER.—Did you ever stop to think why the bees "sweat"? Did you ever see them sweat on a hot day? I doubt if you did. And if you take off some more of the top packing you may see them sweat worse than ever. The bees ex-

hale vapor, and when this vapor strikes the cold walls of the hive it sometimes congeals into frost there, melting into water and running out of the hive as soon as the weather is warm enough. Sometimes it merely condenses into water and runs out of the hive as soon as enough is collected. Whether cold or warm, this vapor is being sent off at all times, only when it is warm enough it does not condense into water or ice.

Evidently the cure is hardly making the hive colder. If you double the covering on top it may help instead of hurt. Possibly the entrance is not open enough. For with the entrance sufficiently open, the vapor could pass out without settling on the walls. If everything else is right, you needn't be alarmed by a little water running out of the hive. That's a common thing to be seen at the entrance of a strong colony the morning after a cool night every spring.

## Canadian Beedom.

### The North American—"Opinions Differ."

On page 684, Editor York says: "I cannot understand how any one can feel satisfied to attend a convention of the North American and not contribute toward paying its expenses."

Yes, Bro. York, "opinions differ." I think I enjoyed the convention about as heartily as any one present, but, I didn't pay my dollar to become a member. Why? Because I gave my dollar to Father Langstroth, in preference to becoming a member of the North American, and I thought that was about all I could stand after a poor honey crop.

More than that, what inducements have you to offer for me to become a member? Do you suppose I am going to buy a 2:40 horse, and let some other fellow ride? Oh, no! my wallet is not deep enough for that kind of business. What do I mean? I mean just this:

The North American Convention is held once a year, and about once or twice in my life-time, (if I live long enough) will the place of meeting be within my reach. Now, do you suppose I am going to contribute out of my scant income to defray the expenses of the Association, and let some other fellows enjoy the fun and pleasure of attending the conventions? No, no! Bro. York. I am not built that way.

Now, I will tell you when I will become a member, and forward my dollar cheerfully: Marry the two organizations, so that being a member will be a benefit and protection to me, no matter whether I may have the opportunity of attending conventions or not. As soon as such union is accomplished, then, and not before, have you any just right to claim our support.

I will offer a suggestion, in reference to making the North American more remunerative to its supporters: Could not some of our leading apicultural lights devise some feasible scheme by which some kind of accident insurance on bees and apicultural appliances could be introduced? and arrange it in such a way that members—and members only—could avail themselves of the protection of the Association against loss from fire, tornadoes, cyclones—and Mexican bull fights—which may come our way and destroy and injure our apiaries?

Now, while I would not attempt to formulate a plan by which such an object could be introduced, laying all jokes aside, I do believe that some one with the ability to evolve and impress such an object upon the minds of the now able members of the Association, would perhaps work some good. Take the suggestion for what it is worth, and consider where it comes from.

But remember, Bro. York, that you may live in a glass house yourself some day, and then you may expect to see a shower of Canadian pebbles with a streamer of membership fees attached!

Bethesda, Ont.

D. W. HEISE.

The Alsike Clover Leaflet consists of 2 pages, with illustrations, showing the value of Alsike clover, and telling how to grow it. This Leaflet is just the thing to hand to every farmer in your neighborhood. Send to the Bee Journal office for a quantity of them, and see that they are distributed where they will do the most good. Prices, postpaid, are as follows: 50 for 25 cents; 100 for 40 cents; or 200 for 70 cents.

See "Bee-Keeper's Guide" offer on page 784.

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## Editorial Budget.

**Mr. Thomas G. Newman**—for nearly 20 years editor of the American Bee Journal (1873 to 1892)—is now editor and publisher of The Philosophical Journal, formerly the Religio-Philosophical Journal. In closing his "Salutatory" in the number for Dec. 14, he says that now his "energies will be devoted to the advancement of true Spiritualism everywhere, and the ultimate triumph of the 'harmonial philosophy.'"

**Mr. S. E. Miller**, who for some time has been writing "Star Apiary Notes" for the Progressive Bee-Keeper, makes his valedictory bow in the last number of that paper, the allurements of a mercantile life outweighing the attractions of the bee-yard. Sorry to lose you, Bro. S. E., for in spite of your common name (so much like Dr. Miller's) you talk uncommonly well. When you've made a fortune behind the counter, you probably will return to bee-keeping again.

**Mr. C. P. Dadant**—of comb-foundation fame—made the office of Gleanings a visit a few weeks ago. In that paper for Dec. 1, Editor Root says:

By the way, the junior Dadant [C. P.] has lately come into the proud distinction of "father-in-law." It seemed rather strange to him, but he was getting used to it. His 19-year-old daughter has gone with a handsomer man than he. Congratulations to the new couple.

Although Chas. Dadant & Son, in a business way, meet us in sharp competition, it is a pleasure for me to record that there are no bee-keepers whose friendship we value more highly. Their competition has always been fair, and their business deals strictly honorable.

That "father-in-law" business is news, indeed. I had seen C. P. at the Springfield convention just before he went to Medina, and he said never a word about it. May be he hadn't then recovered from feeling "rather strange" about that "handsomer man" that "hived" his beloved daughter.

**The International Bee-Keepers' Congress** which met in Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 4 and 5, was a representative gathering of bee-keepers.

The Congress was organized by electing Dr. J. P. H. Brown, of Augusta, Ga., President; A. I. Root, Vice-President; and J. T. Calvert, of Medina, Ohio, Secretary. It was largely composed of old veterans in the business, and taken all together, I am informed that it was one of the most profitable, instructive and pleasant conventions that was ever held in this country. The essays read were of a high order, and

some most valuable points were drawn out in their discussion, and also in the discussion of the many questions propounded. A full report of the proceedings will be given in the Bee Journal, beginning with the first number for January, 1896, I trust.

The first essay read was by Chas. Dadant, of Hamilton, Ill., entitled, "About Natural Swarming." This was excellent, and gave rise to discussion and criticism.

An essay on "Bee-Culture," by G. W. Demaree, of Christiansburg, Ky., was very good. He rehabilitated an old subject in new thought and expression, and infused into it a charm that, Dr. Brown says, can only be appreciated by an intelligent and cultured bee-keeper.

An essay, or rather, lecture, was given by Frank Benton, on "Bee-Forage,"

Mrs. L. Harrison, of Peoria, Ill., read an essay on "Bee-Keeping for Women," which, beyond question, was one of the best that was ever written on that subject. It was embodied and clothed in Mrs. Harrison's matter-of-fact and practical style; and was written for the benefit of that large class of women who are struggling against the ills of an empty purse.

"Bee-Keeping a Profitable Industry" was the subject of an essay read by J. D. Fooshe, of Coranaca, S. C.

**The Venango County** bee-keepers' convention, to be held at Franklin, Pa., Dec. 27, promises to be a good one. Vice-President Jolley has my thanks for a cordial invitation to be present, but of course it is quite impossible for me to be there. Among the subjects, and those to discuss them, are the following:

The Best Hive to Use—J. F. Hagerty.

How to Make Our Conventions More Attractive—C. S. Pizer.

My Experience in Bee-Keeping—H. S. Sutton.

Fall Management of Bees—J. H. Bleakley.

Cause of Swarming and How to Prevent It—T. C. Kelly.

Best Method of Italianizing an Apiary—Yale Yoter.

I trust the Secretary will see to it that a condensed report is forwarded to this office for publication along with the essays read. I wish that every Secretary of every convention held in North America would always do this.

**Some Good Advice** is coming in response to the three questions I asked on page 780. Thank you, good friends. I hope that all who expect to be clear on our books for 1896 will respond to the questions asked. I want to know what you want in the American Bee Journal. Of course, I can't promise to please you all, but out of the many answers I expect to get a good deal of help, and shall try to use as many of the suggestions as I possibly can.

Lest some failed to see the questions propounded, I repeat them:

1. What department would you like to have more of?

2. What department would you prefer less of?

3. What have you to suggest that you think would be an improvement in the contents of the Bee Journal?

Please reply on a separate sheet of paper from the business part of your letter; or on a postal card, in case your subscription is paid for 1896.

Remember, this is open till Christmas. After that time, I expect to arrange the replies, and see wherein I can follow out the wishes of the majority.

**The Standard Dictionary**—published by Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls, 30 Lafayette Place, New York—is acknowledged, by the leading educators of both England and America, to be the best dictionary of the English language. But it seems there is one picayune English competitor that has selected from the Standard a few words that might be termed "indelicate" (but which are found in all other good





# Book Premiums for Getting New Subscribers

For each New Subscriber to the American Bee Journal sent us by a present subscriber, we will give as a Premium **40 cents' worth** of the Books, Pamphlets, etc., described on this page—figuring on the **retail price** given in connection with each book, etc., below. This is a very easy way to get a lot of most excellent literature.

## Free Copy of "BEES AND HONEY" to Every New Subscriber.

Yes, in addition to the above offer, we will mail free a copy of Newman's 160-page "Bees and Honey"—premium edition—to each new subscriber. On new subscriptions, the \$1.00 will pay for the Bee Journal from the time it is received to the end of 1896. NOW IS JUST THE TIME to work for big lists of New Subscribers.

The American Bee Journal List Should Easily Be **DOUBLED** by Jan. 1st, on these Liberal Offers.

## BEE-BOOKS

SENT POSTPAID BY

George W. York & Co.,  
Chicago, Ills.

**Bees and Honey**, or Management of an Apiary for Pleasure and Profit, by Thomas G. Newman.—This edition has been largely re-written, thoroughly revised, and is "fully up with the times" in all the improvements and inventions in this rapidly-developing pursuit, and presents the apiarist with everything that can aid in the successful management of an apiary, and at the same time produce the most honey in an attractive condition. It contains 250 pages, and 245 illustrations—is beautifully printed in the highest style of the art, and bound in cloth, gold-lettered. Price, \$1.00.

**Langstroth on the Honey-Bee**, revised by Dadant.—This classic in bee-culture, has been entirely re-written, and is fully illustrated. It treats of everything relating to bees and bee-keeping. No apiarian library is complete without this standard work by Rev. L. L. Langstroth—the Father of American Bee-Culture. It has 520 pages; bound in cloth. Price, \$1.40.

**Bee-Keepers' Guide**, or Manual of the Apiary, by Prof. A. J. Cook, of the Michigan Agricultural College.—This book is not only instructive and helpful as a guide in bee-keeping, but is interesting and thoroughly practical and scientific. It contains a full delineation of the anatomy and physiology of bees. 400 pages; bound in cloth and fully illustrated. Price,

**Scientific Queen-Rearing**, as Practically Applied, by G. M. Doolittle.—A method by which the very best of Queen-Bees are reared in perfect accord with Nature's way. 176 pages, bound in cloth, and illustrated. Price, \$1.00.

**A B C of Bee-Culture**, by A. I. Root.—A cyclopedia of 400 pages, describing everything pertaining to the care of the honey-bees. It contains 300 engravings. It was written especially for beginners. Bound in cloth. Price, \$1.25.

**Advanced Bee-Culture**, Its Methods and Management, by W. Z. Hutchinson.—The author of this work is too well known to need further description of his book. He is a practical and entertaining writer. You should read his book. 90 pages, bound in paper, and illustrated. Price, 50 cts.

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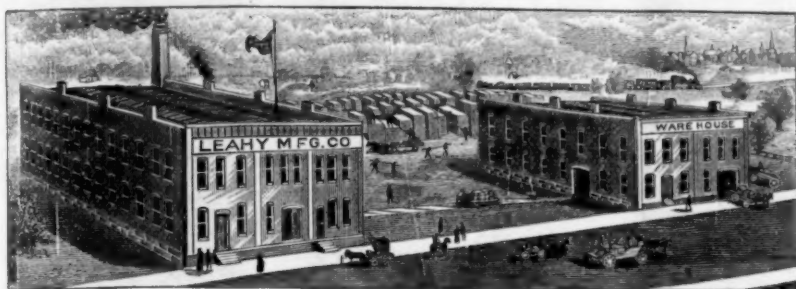
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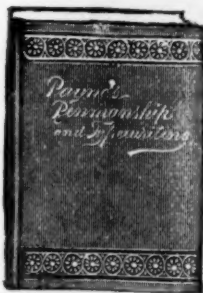
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## General Items.

### Sweet Clover Leads Again.

MR. EDITOR:—The American Bee Journal has been of great value to me the past year, and as long as I can get for \$1.00 the experience of such men as the Dadants, Dr. Miller, G. M. Doolittle, Rev. Abbott, and many others that write for it, you can count me as one of your subscribers. We learn more from them through the Bee Journal, in one year, than we could learn in a lifetime without it.

I am a tenderfoot in the bee-business, but had very good results this year. I had 7 colonies in the spring, that built up well on fruit-bloom, and made preparations to swarm the first of June, but white clover failed, so they gave it up, but held their own until sweet clover blossomed, then the honey began to roll in, and they filled some over 400 one-pound sections, mostly sweet clover honey. I think we shall have to depend mostly on sweet clover in this part of the country; it grows very rank along the roads, and where it is cut or pastured off it blossoms a long time; in fact, till killed by frost.

G. W. STEPHENSON.

Western Springs, Ill., Dec. 2.

### Results of the Past Season.

Well, the harvest is ended, and I have "rounded up" the work with the bees. I think we ought to give our failures to the public as well as our successes.

There are a good many keeping bees here, and I don't know of any of them that studies the nature of the little honey-bee. They look at it as a sort of off-handed business, but, alas, I am getting some of the old fogies hoodooed. I read the "Old Reliable," and the leading bee-books, and I keep pretty well posted, and can tell them things they never thought of.

Now for my report: I had 9 colonies, spring count, increased to 18, and took 325 pounds of comb honey. This honey is sold at 10 cents per pound right in my apiary. The average per colony was 18 pounds. Thus any one can see that my income from bees is \$32.50. This is no great amount, but I make my living on the farm, and can do very well with that small amount for my trouble with the little stinging creatures.

I use the 8-frame Langstroth hive, and I think it the hive for this locality. I also have the 3-banded Italian bees; I like them much better than the 5-banded ones. I had some of the so-called 5-banded bees, but I got rid of them. Somehow or other we couldn't get along together. They would "fall out" with me in spite of all I could do.

J. M. JEFFCOAT.

Pike, Tex., Nov. 26.

### No Honey, but Not Discouraged.

I have thought from time to time of writing, but with the loss of 20 colonies of bees in the spring, and no honey, I tell you it takes a little enthusiasm out of me. May be old bee-keepers are used to such things. I lost the colonies from dysentery, although my bees had the best of clover and basswood honey, and plenty of it, packed in outside cases with pure wheat chaff, with cushions and Hill's device on top of the frames. I expected them to come out booming. I had three or four nuclei, and one or two after-swarms. They commenced dying the first of January, and never held up till well on into May. I fed most of them, and in May a good many colonies began to breed up quite lively. There were some quite strong, but about May 15 we had 3 inches of snow; yet on the 9th it was very warm, the mercury at sunrise being at 58 degrees; the bees killing drones, cut queen-cells, then hot weather and then cold during May and June. I had a nice swarm on the first day of June.

I had most of the colonies in splendid condition for the honey-flow, but no rain, and exceedingly dry. No honey. I put on

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the supers. Soon the clover passed away, then I thought I certainly will get a little from basswood. It came and went, too, with the exception of three or four days the bees got a little to live on, then they commenced robbing, but I was there and watched them. I do not think they got the start of me. I read "Langstroth on the Honey-Bee," the "A B C of Bee-Culture," and another book whose author I don't remember, and Prof. Cook's "Bee-Keepers' Guide," to find out what to do under the circumstances. I could find out nothing, only to feed the bees. So I said the last of August, "Here goes for sugar." I went to feeding and making candy, and in September I put them in their outside cases, but did not pack them. Not a pound of surplus honey did I get.

I now began to hear the croakers. I thought it would come out about that way. Did not I tell you? But, said I, "Where is your hay?" Not one ton to where there were 50 in other years, and many farmers had none at all. Now they are calculating to put all their energies to work another year to raise hay, as all of last spring's seedling was burnt up. So with apiculture; stick and hang to it, resolved I am another year.

There were plenty of dead bees in this locality last spring, and no surplus honey this season worth speaking of. I have been around quite a scope of country, on business, and no surplus honey is the cry.

Long live the American Bee Journal.

Ionia, Mich., Nov. 23. JACOB MOORE.

### Selling Honey on Commission.

It is seldom that I receive the American Bee Journal without finding something in it that more than pays me the price I pay for it. I am especially pleased with the article by W. D. French, on page 742. Having just had a little experience with these middlemen myself, and not having the faculty of expressing myself as fluently as does Mr. French, I can only say that those are my sentiments exactly. And I honestly think that the honey-producers of this great land of ours are, as a rule, thoroughly disgusted with the manner in which they are compelled at present to market their products.

Of course, we fully understand that high prices cannot always be obtained, but, if after writing for information on the state of the market, etc., you receive a very plausibly written letter, stating that the market is in good condition, and honey is selling readily at from 14 to 16 cents per pound, and that returns for the same can be made immediately, you will (unless you have been there before, and been deceived) take the bait, and ship some honey. And, after you have made the shipment, you can wait six weeks for the prompt returns, and when the returns finally come, you may find, as I did, that instead of 14 to 16 cents your honey was sold, so the middleman said, for less than 10 cents per pound, on the average—the best of it for 12 cents, and the balance for 9, 10 and 11 cents. If you have taken special pains to have your goods in nice shape, and know that it ought to grade No. 1, you will feel somewhat as I do on this subject.

Of course, the editor will not wish to tell whom I refer to, but it would not be out of place for him to do so. To prove this, I quote the last claim in their letter to me:

"We would also like for you to show your sales you get from us, so that others can see what we did for you; and what we are capable of doing for them; and we believe that you can get better prices by letting us handle your honey than you can by selling at home."

Now, the facts in this case are, that this honey would have netted me 12 cents right at home; whereas, after deducting the freight, 10 per cent. commission, cartage, and loss by broken combs (which is the excuse given for the low price), the 549 pounds net a trifle less than 8 cents per pound!

Of course, I want the people who have honey to sell to know just what this one Chicago firm is capable of doing for them.



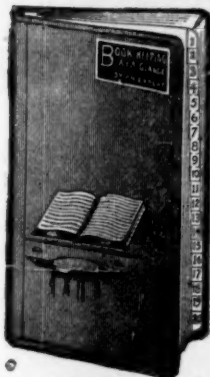
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WHEN ANSWERING THIS ADVERTISEMENT, MENTION THIS JOURNAL.

so I take this means of complying with their earnest request. I notice that their advertisement fails to appear in the Bee Journal now. I presume it drew too much trade.

Now, Mr. Editor, if I have said anything that lays me liable to prosecution, don't fail to print this on that account.

Loyal, Wis., Nov. 25. L. M. WILLIS.

[Mr. Willis, a plain statement of facts that can be proven—such as you have given—I think should be published. It may help others to steer clear of those who make too extravagant claims in the commission business.—EDITOR.]

**Hives—The Season of 1895.**

Why this everlasting "confab" about "big and little hives," that we see in almost every issue of the "Old Reliable?" Yet few give the size they prefer, and it looks to me, if the question was put directly—"How many square inches of comb space does your hive contain?"—many would be unable to answer, further than to say, "The Simplicity, or Gallup, or Adair is my size," or others would say the 8 or 10 frame. A hive that suits in the South is not the one to winter successfully in the Middle or Northern States. It appears as if all the hive-makers have an "ax to grind," and want the public to turn the stone.

The hive I use contains 1,058 inches of comb space, inside measure, and I find this large enough to winter on the summer stands, if properly attended to.

As others have been reporting their success (good and bad), I will give mine in part.

The spring opened in good style, with the bees in pretty fair condition, but the severe freeze we had in May, destroying fruit-bloom and all other flowers, pretty nearly settled the honey-business for the early part of the season. My bees did not have as much honey June 1 as they had April 1. But buckwheat let us out. I got 95 pounds from one colony, 56 from another, and so on. I had four swarms in August; one gave me 19 1/2 pounds, another 16 pounds, and another 12 pounds of surplus honey, and all are in good condition for winter. I think we will make it pay better next season. My crop of about 450 pounds is nearly all gone, at from 16 to 20 cents per pound.

Success to all bee-keepers, including York.

Slipper Rock, Pa.

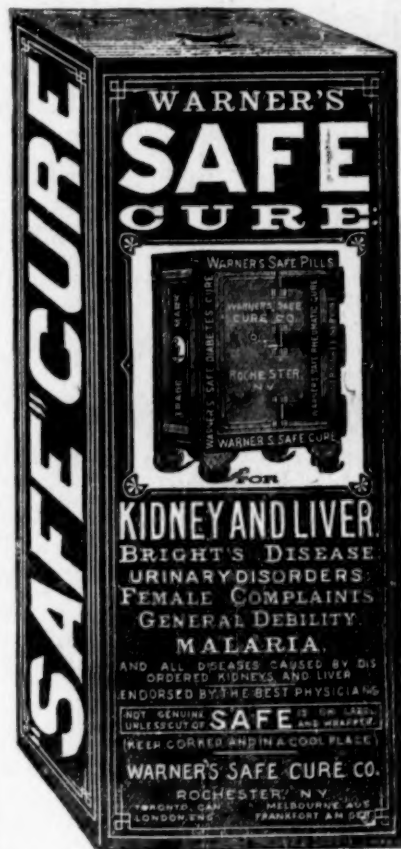
T. C. KELLY.

**An Experience in Selling Honey.**

The case of Mr. Willis, on pages 764 and 765, on selling honey on commission, differs from mine only in this respect, that I sold a quantity of honey for a certain price, to be paid for as soon as received. Now, Mr. Editor, I wish you to print my statement in this case, as I do not intend to say anything that I cannot prove. It is simply this:

September 15, last, a man giving his name as H. C. Dingsman, 344 Humboldt Ave., with C. R. Horrie & Co., Chicago, Ill., came to my place and introduced himself, saying he was buying honey, and carrying, as an introduction, in one hand, a copy of the American Bee Journal, also a pocketful of stencil marks, with C. R. Horrie & Co., Chicago, Ill., on them, and also numbered. After examining my honey, he offered me 11 cents per pound, delivered on the cars, with the understanding that all I had to do was to pack it properly, and put it on the cars; then it would be in their possession, and they would run all risks of damages. As soon as received by C. R. Horrie & Co., he said they, without delay, would send me the money for the same.

He wanted it shipped as soon as Sept. 18. It was then Friday, and he wanted it shipped by the next Wednesday. As I was not prepared with the regular shipping-cases, he said that would make no differ-



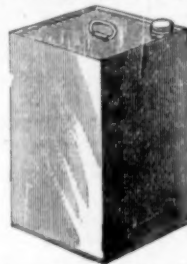
Miniature facsimile of Warner's Safe Cure Wrapper

**Fine Basswood, White Sage or Alfalfa**

**EXTRACTED HONEY**

—For Sale.—

We have made arrangements whereby we furnish **Basswood, White Sage or Alfalfa** Extracted Honey, in 60-pound tin cans, on board cars in Chicago, at these prices: 1 can,



in a case, 8 1/2 cents per pound; 2 cans in one case, 8 cents; 4 cans (2 cases) or more, 7 1/2 cents. Cash MUST accompany each order.

A sample of either kind of honey will be mailed to an intending purchaser, for 10 cents, to cover postage, packing, etc. We guarantee purity, and that what we ship will be equal to sample.

Now it seems to us that here is a splendid chance for any bee-keeper to supply his home demand after his own crop is all sold. Or, why not begin now to create a local honey-trade? Order one 60-pound can first, and start out among your neighbors and friends, and see what you can do. You ought to get at least 15 cents per pound in 5-pound lots, or 50 cents for 3 pounds. Some may be able to do even better than that, though we think that enough ought to be sold at these prices to make a fairly paying business out of it. Give it a good trial. Push it. It may grow into a nice winter's work for you.

GEORGE W. YORK & CO.,

CHICAGO, ILLS.

**Will Exchange**—Concord Grapes for Fruit. Grain or offers.

50A F. C. Morrow, Wallaceburg, Ark.

ence, that any common boxes would do. He went with me and we selected some cracker-boxes, and he said that they were all right. I took them, cut them down to fit a certain number of sections, then packed them carefully, without marring a section; and as I live less than six rods from the depot, they were all carried and put on the cars without a jar or injury of any kind, and shipped the 18th as requested. There was 663 $\frac{3}{4}$  pounds of first-class, selected white honey.

I waited a proper time, and received no answer. I then wrote Horrie & Co., and on Sept. 28 they wrote me stating they had received my honey, but it was unsold. I then notified them of the condition of the sale, "without delay." I got no further reply until I sent them another letter, requesting them to settle the matter up; that I was in need of my money. Then on Nov. 4, they sent me a draft for \$26, with a letter accompanying it, saying that they hoped I would now be satisfied. I wrote them that I was not satisfied, when they replied that they had done the best they could for me. I wrote them again, and gave them another week to settle it up, and have not heard anything more from them.

I am not in any worse fix than some of my neighbors here, that shipped at the same time, under the same agreement, and up to date they have received nothing.

E. B. HUFFMAN.

Homer, Minn., Dec. 21.

#### Wintering Bees in Box-Hives.

I have seen so much about bees being kept in warm quarters in winter—chaff-hives, bee-cellars, quilts, sawdust, forest leaves, a few loads of fodder, and all of that sort of things; but I believe that if a colony has a good hive, and all the stores the bees want, and are kept dry, they will come out all right in the spring. But I do believe that bees will withstand more severe weather in a box-hive than they will in a movable-frame hive, and for this reason: Last winter I had 12 colonies of bees—5 in box-hives, and 7 in the Langstroth Simplicity hives; 4 of the latter were in a little bee-house that I had made for that purpose. Now all of the others were out-of-doors, and on the summer stands. The house was simply made to hold a few colonies of bees for the use of our family. It was made 16 feet long and 4 feet wide, with a stand inside for the hives to rest on, the same length as the house, 15 inches off the ground. The house is open the full length of it on the east side.

Now 2 of the colonies in the house died, of what I thought was diarrhea, and with plenty of honey in the hive. I was thinking the 4 in the house would be all that I would save, as the weather was so terribly cold here. The mercury was as low as 22 degrees below zero.

While the two in the house died, all that were outside were all right, with the exception of one colony, and it was in the movable-frame hive. It was very weak in the spring. I examined the combs, and found only a few bees and no queen, so I gave them a queen, and they soon built up to a strong colony.

What makes me think that bees do better in box-hives than movable-frame ones, as I stated above, is, they stand the cold weather better in that kind of a hive. Five of the outside colonies were in box-hives, and 4 of them were up off the ground a foot, on a stand—nothing around them. The summer previous I had bored inch holes in the tops of the 4 hives to put some sections on, so there were from 5 to 7 holes in each top of the hive; you see there was a good draft up through the hives, with nothing to cover it on top to protect it, and they winter very well without being carried to the cellar, or put into double-walled hives, and all that sort of thing.

Of course, I do not want any one to think that I want to tell old bee-keepers what to do with their bees, but I am going a little by the colonies that I have spoken of above.

Linton, Ind., Nov. 30.

GEO. SAGE.

#### Honey & Beeswax Market Quotations.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 10.—White clover and Linden, in 1-pound sections, sells at 14@15c., but other kinds of white honey sell at 12@13c.; dark and amber grades, 9@10c., of which there is a very liberal supply. Extracted, white, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ @7c.; amber, 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ @5c.; dark, 4@5c., difference in price of each grade being in accord with its quality, fine flavor always being at a premium. Beeswax, 28@30c., and selling upon arrival.

R. A. B. & Co.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 10.—There is no life in the business. All kinds of honey are in good supply, with rather a slow demand for this time of the year. Best white comb honey sells at 12@15c., in the jobbing way, while there is almost no demand for all off grades. Demand for extracted honey is fair at 4@7c. on arrival.

Beeswax is in good demand at 22@27c. for good to choice yellow.

C. F. M. & S.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 9.—The supply of extracted honey is not large, and the demand is good for white. We quote: No. 1 white, 1-lbs., 13@14c.; No. 2, 12@13c.; No. 1 amber, 12@13c.; No. 2, 10@11c.; dark, 8@10c. Extracted, white, 6@6 $\frac{1}{4}$ c.; amber, 5@5 $\frac{1}{4}$ c.; Southern, dark, 4@4 $\frac{1}{4}$ c.

Beeswax, 22@25c.

C. C. C. & Co.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Dec. 9.—Honey has steadily advanced in this market. Comb honey sells quickly and pure white clover extracted sells on sight. We quote: Fancy comb, 16c.; choice, 14@15c.; dark, 10@11c. Extracted, 5@6c.; Western white clover, 10c. Beeswax finds immediate sale on arrival at 30c.

W. A. S.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 9.—We have a fairly good demand for white comb honey at 12@15c., according to quality and style of package. While the market is well cleaned up of glassed sections and paste-board cartons, unglazed is plentiful, having just received two more big cars from California. Buckwheat comb is very dull, with a plentiful supply. We quote 9@10c., but to effect sales on quantity lots, we find it necessary to shade quotations. Considering the limited outlet and large stocks on the market, we would not encourage shipping of buckwheat honey for the near future, as we could not render returns in reasonable time. The market on extracted is quiet at unchanged prices. No demand for buckwheat as yet.

Beeswax is scarce and selling at 29@31c., according to quality.

H. B. & S.

CHICAGO, ILL., Oct. 16.—We never had as good inquiry for honey as this fall, and never sold as much. We have not received as good prices owing to the amount of California stock unloaded on this market, which was sold at a very low price, both comb and extracted. We quote: No. 1 and fancy, 13@15c.; amber and dark, 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ @11c. Extracted, 5@7c. Beeswax, 28c.

J. A. L.

BUFAALO, N. Y., Oct. 14.—Honey is in good demand. We quote: Fancy, mostly 16c.; choice, 14@15c.; buckwheat sells slowly at 10@12c. Extracted very quiet. Will advance liberally upon all choice shipments of honey. Beeswax wanted at 28@30c.

B. & Co.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Nov. 8.—Demand for comb honey is very good, particularly fancy white, and is moving out about as fast as it arrives. We quote: Fancy clover, 1-lbs., 15@16c.; white, 13@14c.; fair, 11@12c.; buckwheat, 10@10 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. Extracted, buckwheat, 5@5 $\frac{1}{4}$ c., with supply equal to demand; white clover and basswood, 6@7c., with supply short and demand good; Southern, 50@55c. per gallon. Beeswax, 27@29c.; extra fancy, 30@31c.

C. I. & B.

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 9.—Our honey market is in good shape, although prices, like on most all products, are not high; but receipts are lighter than last year, and there is a good, steady demand, with a real scarcity of white honey. We quote: White clover, 15@16c.; mixed clover, 12@14c.; dark clover, 9@11c. Extracted, white, 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ @7c.; mixed, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ @6c.; dark, 5@5 $\frac{1}{4}$ c.

H. R. W.

#### MUTH'S HONEY EXTRACTOR

PERFECTION

Cold-Blast Smokers,  
Square Glass Honey Jars, Etc.

For Circulars, apply to CHAS. F. MUTH & SON, Cor. Freeman & Central Aves., Cincinnati, O. Send 10c for Practical Hints to Bee-Keepers. Mention the American Bee Journal.

#### List of Honey and Beeswax Dealers.

Most of whom Quote in this Journal.

##### Chicago, Ills.

J. A. LAMON, 43 South Water St.  
R. A. BURNETT & Co., 163 South Water Street.

##### New York, N. Y.

F. I. SAGE & SON, 183 Reade Street.  
HILDRETH BROS. & SEGELKEN,  
120 & 122 West Broadway.  
CHAS. ISRAEL & BROS., 486 Canal St.

##### Kansas City, Mo.

C. C. CLEMENS & Co., 423 Walnut St.

##### Buffalo, N. Y.

BATTERSON & Co., 167 & 169 Scott St.

##### Hamilton, Ills.

CHAS. DADANT & SON.

##### Philadelphia, Pa.

WM. A. SELSER, 10 Vine St.

##### Cincinnati, Ohio.

C. F. MUTH & SON, cor. Freeman & Central Aves.

#### Convention Notices.

WISCONSIN.—The annual meeting of the Wisconsin State Bee-Keepers' Association will be held Thursday and Friday, Feb. 6 and 7, 1895, in the capitol building at Madison. The program will appear in due time.  
Platteville, Wis. N. E. FRANCE, Sec.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The Venango County Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its 3rd annual convention in the City Hall, at Franklin, Pa., Friday, Dec. 27, 1895, beginning at 9 a.m. All persons interested in bee-culture are cordially invited to attend.  
Utica, Pa. O. L. GREENLEE, Sec.

TEXAS.—The Southwest Texas Bee-Keepers' Association meets at Wharton, Tex., at the apary of W. O. Victor, Dec. 26 and 27, 1895. Everybody is invited, and bee-keepers especially. Come, and let's have the largest meeting Texas ever had. Low rates on all railroads.  
Beville, Tex. J. O. GRIMSLEY, Sec.

IOWA.—The third annual convention of the Central Iowa Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in the Farmers' Club room at Oskaloosa, Iowa, Dec. 26 and 27, 1895. An interesting program has been arranged. Holiday excursion rates. Good hotel accommodations at \$1.00 a day. Come, and bring questions for the Question-Box. This is the largest convention in the State, and should be well attended.

W. E. BRYAN, Sec.-Treas.

New Sharon, Iowa.

NEW YORK.—The Seneca County Bee-Keepers' Association will meet in Templar Hall, at Hayt Corners, N. Y., Thursday, Dec. 19, 1895, at 10 o'clock a.m. All interested in apiculture are cordially invited. The ladies are solicited to come prepared to serve dinner and share in the pleasures of the occasion. An interesting program has been prepared for the entertainment and instruction of those present.  
Hayt Corners, N. Y. C. B. HOWARD, Sec.

The Special Meeting of the Illinois State Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in Chicago, at the New Briggs House, northeast corner of Randolph St. and Fifth Ave., on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 9 and 10, 1896—the week of the National Cycle Show—when excursion rates will be given on the certificate plan—for 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  fare for the round trip. Certificate must be secured at the starting point, or no reduction will be granted on return. Before return ticket is secured, certificate must be signed by the Secretary of the Cycle Exhibition Company, and vised by the joint agent of the railway lines, whose offices will be in the Exhibition Building. Tickets to Chicago may be purchased (and certificate taken) on any day between Jan. 1 and 11, and the return trip commenced on any day between Jan. 4 and 15. Chicago hotel rates are 75 cents each, per night, two in a room; \$1.00 if one in a room. Meals extra—pay for what you order, or go elsewhere for meals, if preferred.  
Bradfordton, Ill. JAS. A. STONE, Sec.

Please Send Us the Names of your neighbors who keep bees, and we will send them sample copies of the BEE JOURNAL. Then please call upon them and get them to subscribe with you, and secure some of the premiums we offer.



## Question-Box.

In the multitude of counsellors there is safety.—Prov. 11-14.

### For the Prevention of Burr-Combs.

**Query 999.**—To prevent burr-combs, is anything as good as the Heddon slat honey-board? If so, what?—OHIO.

J. M. Hambaugh—A  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch bee-space.

Rev. M. Mahin—I have found nothing else so good.

Chas. Dadant & Son—Wide top-bars or thick ones.

J. A. Green—I know of nothing as satisfactory in all respects.

Mrs. L. Harrison—It is satisfactory; I never tried any other way.

H. D. Cutting—Yes. The Dr. Tinker honey-board, and several others.

E. France—I don't know. I don't trouble myself about burr-combs.

Prof. A. J. Cook—I never saw anything, but the spaces must be exact.

G. M. Doolittle—Wide top-bars to frames will do away with burr-combs.

P. H. Elwood—Yes; better a proper bee-space, and plenty of surplus room.

Mrs. J. N. Heater—I have used the zinc queen-excluders with good results.

Jas. A. Stone—I think any way the top-bars are made thicker is just as good.

W. G. Larrabee—I think correct spacing is as good as anything for burr-combs.

R. L. Taylor—Nothing that I know of, if burr-combs attached to sections are meant.

C. H. Dibbern—Yes, I have found the top-bars just as good, and far less bother in handling.

W. R. Graham—Burr-combs give me but little trouble. A proper bee-space given everywhere in the hive is the best remedy I know.

B. Taylor—My slotted top-bars are, and remain the freest from burr-combs of anything I have tried. The skeleton honey-board works well in connection, but is not a necessity.

Dr. C. C. Miller—Of late years, for some reason the Heddon honey-board does not succeed with me as it did at first. Thick top-bars and proper spacing seem to do better so far as I've tried them.

Allen Pringle—I gave up the use of honey-boards nearly 20 years ago, and have no intention of returning to them to prevent burr-combs, or for any other purpose. I use quilts, and am not troubled much with burr-combs.

Eugene Secor—Yes, thick top-bars, properly spaced. The Heddon slatted honey-board is a good device, and about indispensable with the ordinary thin-top frames. But it is possible to make such a frame that it will not be needed.

J. E. Pond—I do not know that the "Heddon slat honey-board" is of any special value in preventing burr-combs. Many plans have been devised for this purpose, none of which give perfect satisfaction. Close spacing of frames, that is, spacing them bee-space apart, or

so near as to allow the bees to just work between them, is, in my opinion, the best means yet devised for the purpose.

Rev. E. T. Abbott—Yes; a proper bee-space between the frames and between the frames and the supers. A slatted honey-board is a needless expense in the production of honey, unless it is queen-excluding, and then it is needed only for extracted honey.

Dr. J. P. H. Brown—I have no experience with the Heddon slat honey-board. There is more fuss made about burr-combs than there is any occasion for. Bees will always make them more or less with any sort of contrivance, but less with thick top-bars.

G. W. Demaree—Heddon has no slat honey-board any more than the rest of us have, who have used the slat honey-board in the long years ago. He is entitled to the "break-joint" feature of the slat honey-board, however, for what it is worth. Yes—decidedly yes—the all-metal queen-excluder is the best remedy against space combs.

### No More Round-Shouldered Men.

## BUCHANAN SHOULDER-BRACE

The Only Brace that Don't Cut Under the Arms.

Cannot Slip Off the Shoulders.

It does not disarrange the Shirt Bosom. Each section of the Pants may be adjusted independent. It attaches the Pants at the same point as the ordinary Suspender. Will wear three years. Be sure to send Chest Measure when ordering.

Price—\$1.50, postpaid; or clubbed with the Bee Journal one year—both together for \$2.25 Or we will mail the Brace free as a premium to any one sending us 4 New Subscribers (\$4). A copy of the 160-page "Bees and Honey" also given to each of the 4 new subscribers.

GEORGE W. YORK & CO.,  
CHICAGO, ILLS.

## WANTED!

10,000 pounds of BEESWAX, for Cash. Address,  
LEAHY MFG. CO., Higginsville, Mo.

### CORRECT MANNERS: HOW TO BEHAVE IN SOCIETY

Containing clear and concise directions for correct manners and usages of polite society. Many people have been misjudged for years simply because they had neglected to perform some little polite act at the proper time; many young men and women have lost the opportunities of a life-time on account of their ignorance of some trifling customary rule of Society. Our BOOK tells all about it. 186 pages. Russia. Red Edges. Price, 75 cts.

**Special Offer:** We will mail this book free as a premium to any one sending us two New Subscribers to the Bee Journal for one year (with \$2.00), and also send a copy of the premium book "Bees and Honey" to each of the new subscribers; or we will club the book with the Bee Journal for a year—both for \$1.60.

GEORGE W. YORK & CO.,  
CHICAGO, ILLS.

**The First Catalogue for 1896** was received at this office Dec. 9. It was that of W. R. Graham & Son, of Texas, dealers in bee-keepers supplies.



**PEERLESS FEED GRINDERS.**  
Old Reliable Absolutely Guaranteed  
Will grind to any desired degree of fineness, any mill on earth. Write at once for prices and agency. There is MONEY IN THEM. Quality Best and Prices Right.  
JOLIET STROUBIDGE CO., Joliet Ill.,  
Farm Machinery, Carriages, Windmills, etc.

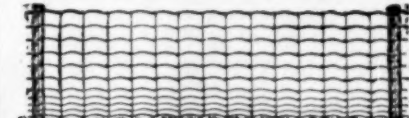
Mention the American Bee Journal. 34A26

**THROAT AND LUNG DISEASES,**  
DR. PEIRO, Specialist  
Offices: 1019, 100 State St.,  
CHICAGO. Hours 9 to 4.  
Mention the American Bee Journal.

**APIARIAN SUPPLIES VERY CHEAP**  
"Keeper"—how to manage bees, etc.—25 cts. The "Model Coop." for hen and her brood. Wyandotte, Langshan and Leghorn Eggs for hatching. Cat. free, but state what you want.  
J. W. ROUSE & CO., Mexico, Mo.  
Mention the American Bee Journal



**DO YOU WASH DISHES?**  
No need of it. The Faultless Quaker will do it for you and save time, hands, dishes, money, and patience; no scalded hands, broken or chipped dishes, no muss. Washes, rinses dries and polishes quickly. Made of best material, lasts a lifetime. Sell at sight. Agents, women or men of honor desiring employment may have paying business by writing now for descriptive circulars and terms to agents.  
The QUAKER NOVELTY CO., Salem, O.  
Mention the American Bee Journal. 39A26t



**DON'T GET MAD**  
If a Page agent claims our wire is 50 to 100 per cent better than used in any other fence. Make him prove it. He can do it or we will disown him.  
PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.  
Mention the American Bee Journal.



**ONE MAN WITH THE UNION COMBINATION SAW**  
Can do the work of four men using hand tools, in Rippling, Cutting-off, Mitring, Rabbeting, Grooving, Gaining, Dadoing, Edging-up, Jointing Stuff, etc. Full Line of Foot and Hand Power Machinery. Sold on Trial. Catalogue Free.  
SENECA FALLS MFG. CO.,  
46 Water St., SENECA FALLS, N. Y.  
1A1y Mention the American Bee Journal.

**Wanted**—To exchange Safety Bicycle for Italian Bees, Extractor, Foundation Mill, or anything useful in the apiary—or a horse-power. Frank Rasmussen, Greenville, Mich.  
Mention the American Bee Journal.

## Getting Ready For 1896!

We are now prepared to furnish in any quantity, at the very lowest prices—EXTRACTORS, SMOKERS, and EVERYTHING used by the wide-awake bee-keeper. We shall continue to make our FALCON POLISHED SECTIONS, which are yet unequalled. If you've never used any of our Goods it is time for you to do so. They are acknowledged to be unsurpassed by any other make. Our large new Catalogue will be out early in the year. Anything you want now? Write to us. Goods and Prices guaranteed to be satisfactory.

Address,  
**THE W. T. FALCONER MFG. CO.,**  
**JAMESTOWN, N. Y.**

Mention the American Bee Journal.

**THROAT AND LUNG DISEASES,**  
**DR. PEIRO, Specialist**  
Offices: 1019, 100 State St.,  
CHICAGO. Hours 9 to 4.

### Payne's Business Letter Writer



and Manual of Commercial Forms.—Containing specimen Letters on all possible business topics, with appropriate answers. Containing general information with regard to business matters, the rules for punctuation, the abbreviations most used in the mercantile world, a dictionary of mercantile terms, a table of synonyms, and other information which may be of value to the business man. New edition, revised and enlarged. 216 pages, Extra Cloth, 75 cts.

**Special Offer:** We will mail this book free sending us two New Subscribers to the Bee Journal for one year (with \$2.00), and also send a copy of the premium book "Bees and Honey" to each of the new subscribers; or we will club the book with the Bee Journal for a year—both for \$1.60.

**GEORGE W. YORK & CO.,**  
CHICAGO, ILLS.

## California

If you care to know of its Fruits, Flowers, Climate or Resources, send for a Sample Copy of California's Favorite Paper—

### The Pacific Rural Press

The leading Horticultural and Agricultural paper of the Pacific Coast. Published weekly, handsomely illustrated, \$2.40 per annum. Sample Copy Free.

**PACIFIC RURAL PRESS,**  
220 Market St., - SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.  
Mention the American Bee Journal.

## You "Can't Afford

To take another journal," did you say? Perhaps you can secure the BEE-KEEPERS' REVIEW without its costing you very much. Send me a few cents in stamps and I'll send you a bundle of back numbers (the more stamps sent the bigger will be the bundle), and if, after looking them over, you can suggest any improvement, any plan whereby the REVIEW can be made better, that I think well enough of to adopt, the REVIEW will be sent you free for 1896.

**W. Z. HUTCHINSON,**  
FLINT, MICH.  
Mention the American Bee Journal.

WANTED—the Names of

# Ten Thousand Beekeepers

to whom I will send my new Price-List as soon as it is ready.

Try the "St Joe" Hive.

**EMERSON T. ABBOTT,**

WHEN ANSWERING THIS ADVERTISEMENT, MENTION THIS JOURNAL.

**ST. JOSEPH, MO.**

## FOR ONLY \$1.50.

We have arranged to offer to our subscribers **The Michigan Farmer and American Bee Journal**—both for one year for the very low price of only \$1.50.

**THE MICHIGAN FARMER** is a 16-page, 64-column weekly—one of the oldest of its kind in the country, and recognized as one of the ablest, most enterprising, instructive and reliable agricultural, live stock and home journals of America. It is strictly first-class in every way; published weekly. This is certainly a great combination, giving 104 papers for \$1.50.

For specimen copies free, address **THE MICHIGAN FARMER**, Detroit, Mich.  
Address Subscription Orders to **American Bee Journal**, Chicago, Ill.

## THIRTY THOUSAND POUNDS —OF BEESWAX—

Is our present stock for next year's sales of Foundation. But still **We Want More Beeswax** and pay a good price.

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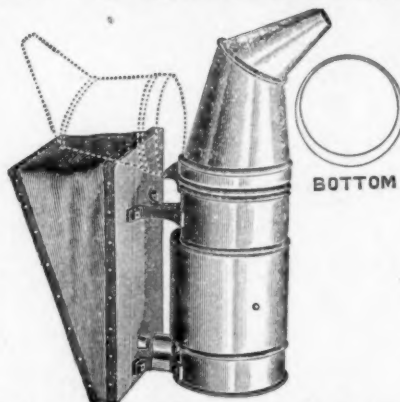
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